

**Listing of the Claims:**

The following is a complete listing of all the claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

1 1-8. Canceled

1 9 (Previously Presented). A distributed method for processing descending  
2 auction traffic using one or more servers at a plurality of nodes in a  
3 distributed processing system comprising the steps of:

4 using a current local winner determination method at each of the  
5 nodes to identify loser bids and candidate winning bids, wherein the  
6 current local winner determination method comprises the steps of:

7 (a) receiving a bid ( $q$ ) for processing, where  $q$  is the quantity  
8 desired at going price  $p$ ;

9 (b) determinating whether the bid is in the first  $\lfloor R/q \rfloor$  bids, asking  
10 for quantity  $q$  at price  $p$ , where  $\lfloor x \rfloor$  stands for the greatest  
11 integer less than or equal to  $x$  and  $R$  is a currently remaining  
12 quantity on auction;

13 (c) if the bid is in the first  $\lfloor R/q \rfloor$  bids, asking for quantity  $q$  at the  
14 going price  $p$ , then declaring the bid a candidate winner bid;  
15 and

16 (d) making the candidate winner bid available for further  
17 processing by the current global winner determination  
18 method; and

19 using a current global winner determination method to determine  
20 from the candidate winning bids from each of the nodes a current set of  
21 winners.

1 10 (Original). The method of claim 9, further comprising the steps of:  
2 giving bids processed by the method a time stamp of arrival; and  
3 determining whether the time stamp, if it exists on the bid, is  
4 greater than or equal to the time stamp of any bid, asking for quantity  $q$  at

5 going price  $p$ , that has been processed by the method in the past.

1 11 (Currently amended). The method of claim 9 †, wherein bidders submit  
2 multi-item bids and the bids may be indivisible.